

INSIDE BURLINGTON

VOLUME 2 / Autumn 2008



Contents

Veterans Terrace
at Echo Park
Page 2

Fire Dept. News
Page 3

Police Dept. News
Page 4

Leaf and Brush
Collection
Page 5

Library Book Clubs
Page 6

Presidential Election
Page 7

Real Estate Taxes
Page 7

PRE SORT
STANDARD U.S.
POSTAGE PAID
BURLINGTON, WI
PERMIT NO. 2

City of Burlington
300 N. Pine Street
Burlington, WI 53105
www.burlington-wi.gov





The Mayor's Corner

Veterans Terrace at Echo Park

Back in 1967, when the Veterans Memorial Building was built, the local area Veteran Organizations affirmed their dedication to the City of Burlington and to Community Service. The Memorial Building was built not only as a fitting and lasting tribute to Burlington's service personnel, but also as an active community center. However, time has taken its toll on the Memorial Building. As our City has grown and prospered the need for a larger community center has also grown. Unfortunately, the Veterans Memorial Building has not been a part of this growth, and has become too small and outdated. It can no longer support our City's demands. It is also painfully clear that as a "Living Memorial" to our Veterans, the building is falling far short of the debt that we owe them, and the recognition that they are due.

One and a half years ago the Veterans saw this need and started a plan to remodel the Veterans Memorial Building. Shortly, into this planning stage, it became clear that the Veterans would not be able to do the project by themselves. They issued a call for help and the Burlington Community Fund, Ltd. was formed. This group and the Veterans joined forces to tackle the huge problem of remodeling and expanding the building. The new building will be known as Veterans Terrace at Echo Park.

What is Veteran's Terrace at Echo Park? It is to be a living memorial to the Burlington area Veterans, who have given so much to us and our Country. It is to be a useful, working memorial dedicated to those area men and women who served their country when called upon – and for those who died for it as well.

Veterans Terrace at Echo Park is to be not only a fitting and lasting tribute to Burlington's service personnel, but it is also to be an active community center which will once again fill a need in our City for this type of facility.

The planning process covered many areas and exposed many problems that had to be overcome before ground could be broken to begin construction. There were permits to be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, funds to be raised,

material to be gathered and volunteers to be collected. Legal problems also surfaced that needed to be cleared up.

Now the Veterans Organizations have once again shown just how committed and dedicated they are to this project, and have turned the Veterans Memorial Building over to the City. This act will allow the Veterans Organizations to return to their common and basic objective of Community Service, through fund raising for this building and serving our community. In accepting the Veterans Memorial Building, I have made the following promises to the Veterans Organizations:

1. The City will guarantee the Veterans Groups will have access to the building in perpetuity. This would mean a place to hold their regular meetings, and to hold fundraisers, as appropriate, free of charge. The Veterans will be guaranteed space for storage and display of their items.
2. The Veterans will not pay any utility or building maintenance costs for the use of the building.
3. The Veterans will not be charged any rent.
4. The Veterans Building Board will select one member to serve on the Burlington Community Fund Board.
5. The Burlington Community Fund Board will guarantee that any revenue generated from the facility will be returned to the community. Specifically the Burlington Community Fund Board will provide funding to various service clubs, groups and other community charities. The Burlington Community Fund will maintain its status as a non-profit charitable organization and all funds generated from the facility will be returned to the community.

As with any project of this magnitude, significant hurdles have been overcome. It is clear that throughout this process, the City, the Veterans and the Burlington Community Fund are committed to this project, and will work together to resolve issues as they arise.



However, there is still a need to raise money so that this project can be finished. As Mayor, I am calling on all the citizens of the City of Burlington, and the surrounding Towns, to help us **finish the job**. We owe it to our Veterans, who have given so much to us, to rebuild this "Living Memorial" to them.

Please help by donating to this important project. Donations can be sent to the Burlington Community Fund, Ltd. P.O. Box 546, Burlington, WI 53105 or made online at www.burlingtonvets.com. You can also honor a loved one by buying a Memorial Brick that will be placed on the grounds of the Veterans Terrace at Echo Park. Memorial Brick order forms are located at www.burlingtonvets.com.

The Citizens of Burlington have proven over and over again that they have the heart, determination, and courage to complete projects that benefit the entire community. As we move forward, I am asking you to do so one more time.

Robert "Bob" Miller
Mayor, City of Burlington

Visit with the Mayor! The Mayor will hold open office hours for the public the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. No appointment is necessary.

Fire Department News

Carbon Monoxide The Silent Killer



The winter months are on the way. As the mercury begins to dip, some families struggling to pay their heating bills, will turn on the kitchen stove burners and the oven in an effort to take the chill off of their home. What these families don't realize is how dangerous this practice can be. A gas oven or range top should never be used for heating. A fire could start and poisonous carbon monoxide (CO) fumes could fill the home. Any fuel-burning heating equipment (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, space or portable heaters), generators and chimneys can produce carbon monoxide.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) there is an increased risk of dying in a home fire during the winter season. December, January and

February are generally the deadliest months for fire. Also, hundreds of people die each year from unintentional CO poisoning. Fire departments responded to an estimated 61,000 CO incidents in 2005, a 9% increase from 2004. (This excludes incidents where a fire was present.) Close to 90% of CO incidents occur in the home.

Often called a silent killer, CO is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels, such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil and methane, burn incompletely. CO enters the body through breathing. CO poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning and other illnesses. Some symptoms include shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, light headedness or headaches.

Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning, but infants, pregnant women and people with physical conditions that limit their ability to use oxygen, such as emphysema, asthma or heart disease, can be more severely affected by low concentrations of CO than healthy adults. High levels of CO can be fatal for anyone, causing death within minutes.

The goal of the City of Burlington Fire Department is to reduce the number of carbon monoxide incidents in Burlington and discourage anyone from using the range or oven to heat their home. Install CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of accumulating CO. Have your heating equipment inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.

- CO alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms. Know the difference between the sound of smoke alarms and CO alarms.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month.
- If your CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location and call for help. Remain at the fresh air location until emergency personnel say it is okay.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries or other trouble indicators.

The City of Burlington Fire Department wants everyone to be warm and safe this winter.

Staying Safe When The Temperatures Drop

As the temperature outside drops, Burlington families take to the indoors to keep safe and warm. What they may not realize is that turning up the heat can increase the risk of home heating fires. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), nearly half of all home-heating fires occur during the winter months. The latest NFPA research shows that heating equipment was involved in 62,200 reported U.S. home structure fires in 2005, with associated losses of 670 civilian deaths, 1,550 civilian injuries, and \$909 million in direct property damage. "While these numbers are frightening, nearly all of these fires are preventable," said John R. Niederer, Fire Inspector. "We can reduce the number of home heating fires in our community by taking some simple precautions and using heating

equipment properly." NFPA and the Burlington Fire Department recommend some simple home heating safety tips, so residents can help keep our community safe and warm this winter:

- Space heaters need space. Keep all things that can burn, such as paper, bedding or furniture, at least 3 feet away from heating equipment.
- Turn portable heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Plug power cords only into outlets with sufficient capacity and never into an extension cord.
- Inspect for cracked, frayed or broken plugs or loose connections. Replace before using.
- Have your chimney inspected each year and cleaned if necessary.
- Use a sturdy fireplace screen.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Dispose of ashes in a metal container.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home, when one sounds, they all sound.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.

For fuel assistance, contact the National Fuel Funds Network at 1-202-824-0660.



Public Works Department News

LEAF COLLECTION



Leaf pick-up begins the first of October and continues through mid-November (weather permitting). Leaves should be raked into the gutter. It is advisable to rake them 6-8" out from the edge of curb to allow storm water to flow unobstructed.

JUST A REMINDER

Leaves, brush and lawn clippings can be taken to the City Compost Site on Maryland Avenue.

Hours are:

Sunday:	12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	Closed
Thursday:	12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday:	Closed
Saturday:	10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Proof of residency is required.

BRUSH PICK UP

Local, at the curb, brush pick-up is a service offered to our residents, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, to help with the removal of brush and larger branches. In order for this service to be cost effective, we only pick up brush that has been called in. Please call 763-2060 to have your address placed on the Brush Pick-Up list each time that you need this service. Unfortunately, if you do not

call in your address, your brush will not be picked up. Please call in your address for a pick-up by no later than the prior Tuesday, and place your brush and larger branches next to, but not on, the street next to your home on Tuesday evening before the Wednesday pick-up.

WINTER SEASON REMINDERS

The winter weather will soon be upon us, and along with this weather also comes snow.

Keeping the sidewalks clear of snow and ice is something that is not only a courtesy to other people in your neighborhood for walking, but also required by City Ordinance.

As the owner, occupant or person in charge of a residence(s) in the city, you are responsible for the removal of any snow and ice that has accumulated on the sidewalk in the front of the residence(s) within 18 hours of the snowfall. Any ice that has formed on the sidewalk must be treated to prevent the area from being dangerous. Failure to maintain the sidewalk within this 18-hour timeframe may result in the Street Department cleaning your sidewalk, in which case the City will bill the owner(s).

City crews make every effort possible to safely remove snow from all streets in a timely manner as soon as possible after a snowfall. State highways are the first streets to be plowed,

followed by the main (arterial) streets, side streets, and then parking lots and alleys. Please call 763-2060 for more information regarding snow removal.

CITY PARKS

The Park Board will officially close all of the City's park restrooms on October 1st. While you may continue to enjoy the beauty of the parks and other amenities, we must shut off water supplies to restrooms to prevent pipes from freezing. The Riverwalk restrooms will remain open during the day throughout the winter.

OIL & ANTIFREEZE RECYCLING

The Department of Public Works is once again accepting used oil and antifreeze for recycling. Please bring your oil or antifreeze in a sealed container to the Public Works building at 824 Milwaukee Avenue between the hours of 7 a.m. through 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Police Department News



KEEPING YOUR HOME SAFE

Keeping your home and family safe is highest priority on everyone's list. Simple steps can be done both daily and before stepping away on a vacation to help keep unnecessary instances from occurring. The Burlington Police Department would like you to consider using the following tips to keep you and your family safe:

1. Talk with neighbors about when you'll be gone and if anyone will be at your residence. Your neighbor could be the first to spot a burglar, fire or other out of place circumstances. Leave a key with a neighbor for emergency purposes.

2. Install house numbers on your residence (required by City Ordinance) to help police and fire

identify your home quickly in an emergency.

3. Do not leave bicycles, lawn mowers or any other enticing items on the front lawn that would attract burglars.



4. While away, use timers for interior lights and radios. Exterior lights are also important to leave on, however,

if you use them only while away it could tip off a potential burglar. Report any broken or burned out street lights in your neighborhood to the Public Works Department (763-2060).

5. Always ask for identification of sales representatives, public utility personnel or anyone else you are not familiar with.

6. Stop all newspaper and mail deliveries if you leave for vacation. Make arrangement for lawn service and snow removal while you are gone.

Taking a few steps in securing your home, talking with neighbors, being aware of your surroundings and calling the Police if you see something suspicious will help to deter and/or apprehend a burglar.

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



The Western Racine County Family Violence Community Coalition (WRCFVCC) began in 2002 to address issues of child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse and sexual assault specific to victims and their families in Western Racine County. The mission of the Coalition is: Western Racine County Family Violence Community Coalition is committed to developing, nurturing and sustaining a community free of abuse and violence. The goals of the WRCFVCC are to:

- To develop sensitive and effective responses to survivors.

- Promote and develop practices that hold perpetrators accountable for their actions

- Increase community awareness of abuse and violence issues.

- Provide opportunities for collaboration between service providers.

- Improve access to appropriate services.

The Coalition is open to any individual who has an interest in working toward the above goals and mission. The meetings are held the

third Thursday of every month from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. For more information about the coalition, please contact Co-Chairpersons, Vicki Biehn at 262-763-6226, ext. 31 or vbiehn@lsswis.org or Laurella Thomas at 262- 767-6806 or laurella.thomas@aurora.org





LIBRARY NEWS



BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS

August 25 at 7 p.m.

We will discuss *THE WORST HARD TIME* by Timothy Egan. This book details the causes and results of the Dust Bowl in the four corner region of Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, and Oklahoma. This is a very readable history of this era as the author interviewed living survivors, many who still live on the same homesteads.



September 22 at 7 p.m.

We will discuss *THREE CUPS OF TEA: One Man's Mission to promote peace...one school at a time* by Greg Mortenson. This book details Greg's efforts to build schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan in poor, remote areas which are home to the Taliban. His schools are especially for girls who would otherwise not receive any education in these countries.

October 27 at 7 p.m.

We will discuss *THE WHISTLING SEASON* by Ivan Doig. Narrated by Paul, the oldest son after he becomes an adult and has to decide the fate of Montana's one-room schoolhouses. This glimpse into a vanished way of life and eccentric characters is an unforgettable, charming tale of love and loss, truth and lies, and education—conventional and otherwise.

November 24 at 7 p.m.

We will discuss *THE 'S ZOOKEEPER'S WIFE* by Diane Ackermann. Ackerman tells the remarkable WWII story of Jan Zabinski, the director of the Warsaw Zoo, and his wife, Antonina, who, with courage and coolheaded ingenuity, sheltered 300 Jews as well as Polish resisters in their villa and in animal cages and sheds. Using Antonina's diaries, other contemporary sources and her own research in Poland, Ackerman takes us into the Warsaw ghetto and the 1943 Jewish uprising and also describes the Poles' revolt against the Nazi occupiers in 1944.

LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS

Global warming, reducing energy use, and sustainable living will be program topics at Burlington Public Library in September and October.

Global Warming: Changing Course, a four week discussion course developed by the Northwest Earth Institute, will be held at Burlington Public Library in September and October. The goals of the course are to explore personal values and habits as they relate to climate change, to understand the history and science of global



warming and to empower individuals to take action to curb global warming. An introduction to the course and sign ups will be on Thursday, September 18 at 7 p.m. at Burlington Public Library, 166 E. Jefferson. The discussion sessions will be at 7 p.m. on September 25, October 2, October 9 and October 16.

Programs from Focus on Energy, Michael Fields Institute and ENACT will also be scheduled on September and October. Dates and times will be announced later.

For more information contact Judy Rockwell at 763-7623 or jrockwel@burlington.lib.wi.us

City Clerk's Office

ELECTION INFORMATION



The Presidential Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters that live in the First or Second District (Wards 1-8) will vote at Cross Lutheran Church, 126 Chapel Terrace. Voters in the Third or Fourth District (Wards 9-16) will vote at the United Methodist Church, 857 West State Street. This is a new

location as the Burlington Veteran's Memorial Building is no longer a polling location for the Third and Fourth Districts.

Absentee ballots will available approximately three weeks prior to the election at City Hall, 300 N. Pine Street between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Before you can vote absentee, you must be a registered voter and complete an application for an absentee ballot. We have many voters who vote absentee on a permanent basis due to ill health or age and they are automatically sent a ballot for every election. If you or someone you know would be interested in being included on this list, please contact the City Clerk at 342-1161.

Districts 1 & 2

(Wards 1 - 8)

Vote at Cross Lutheran Church

126 Chapel Terrace

Districts 3 and 4

(Wards 9 - 16)

Vote at United Methodist Church

857 W. State Street

City Treasurer's Office

REAL ESTATE TAX SEASON 2008

This year the City of Burlington will be bringing something new to the table for its residents in hope of making the process of paying real estate taxes more convenient.

In efforts to give you more opportunities to pay your real estate taxes, Associated Bank, Fox River State Bank and M & I Bank (local branches only) will be collecting taxes on behalf of the City so you can take advantage of

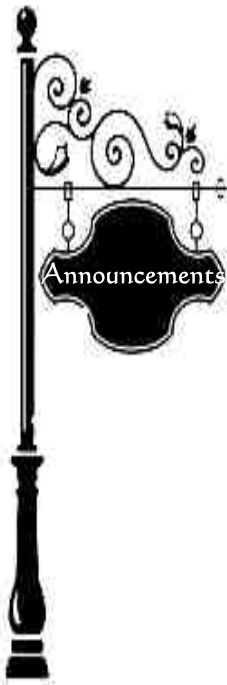


their extended business hours, weekend hours, and various other services. This will only be applicable for the first installment due by January 31, 2009, the

second installment will still be paid to the Racine County Treasurer by July 31, 2009. The City will still accept payments at City Hall or by mail to P.O. Box 477, Burlington, WI 53105, or by credit card at www.officialpayments.com.

Stay tuned to the Standard Press for a listing of bank hours and be sure to subscribe to the Chocolate City eChat through the City of Burlington website at www.burlington-wi.gov for more up to date information.

**SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE CHOCOLATE CITY eCHAT ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER
WITH UP TO DATE NEWS FROM THE CITY AT www.burlington-wi.gov.**



The 2nd Annual **Apple Harvest Days** will be held September 25-27 in downtown Burlington. Hours will be Thursday from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Garbage and Recycling pick-up for the week of Labor Day (September 1-5) and Thanksgiving (November 24-28) will be delayed one day due to the holidays. There will be pick up on Saturday (September 6 and November 29) for those who typically have Friday service.

Halloween **Trick or Treating** will be held on Sunday, October 26 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Due to the **Presidential Election** on Tuesday, November 4, the Common Council meeting will be rescheduled for Wednesday, November 5.

The Burlington **Farmer's Market** ends November 20. Normal hours for the market in September, October and early November are every Thursday from 3 p.m. To 8 p.m.

City offices will be closed November 27 and November 28 for the **Thanksgiving** Holiday.

The 27th annual **Christmas Parade** will be held on Friday, December 5 starting at 6:30 p.m.

2008 **Real Estate Tax** Bills will be mailed mid-December. First installment payments are due by January 31, 2009. If you want to claim a deduction on your income taxes, you must pay by December 31, 2008.

September Meetings

9/2 5:30 p.m.- Community Development Authority
9/2 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
9/3 6:30 p.m. - Police & Fire Commission
9/9 6:30 p.m. - Plan Commission
9/16 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
9/18 6:00 p.m. - Park Board
9/23 4:00 p.m. - Library Board
9/25 6:00 p.m. - Airport Committee
9/25 6:30 p.m. - Historic Preservation Committee

October Meetings

10/7 5:30 p.m.- Community Development Authority
10/7 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
10/1 6:30 p.m. - Police & Fire Commission
10/14 6:30 p.m. - Plan Commission
10/16 6:00 p.m. - Park Board
10/21 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
10/23 6:00 p.m. - Airport Committee
10/23 6:30 p.m. - Historic Preservation Committee
10/28 4:00 p.m. - Library Board

November Meetings

11/5 5:30 p.m.- Community Development Authority
11/5 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
11/5 6:30 p.m. - Police & Fire Commission
11/11 6:30 p.m. - Plan Commission
11/18 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
11/18 4:00 p.m. - Library Board
11/20 6:00 p.m. - Park Board
11/27 6:00 p.m. - Airport Committee
11/27 6:30 p.m. - Historic Preservation Committee

December Meetings

12/2 5:30 p.m.- Community Development Authority
12/2 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
12/3 6:30 p.m. - Police & Fire Commission
12/9 6:30 p.m. - Plan Commission
12/16 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
12/16 4:00 p.m. - Library Board
12/18 6:00 p.m. - Park Board
TBD 6:00 p.m. - Airport Committee
TBD 6:30 p.m. - Historic Preservation Committee

City of Burlington 2008 Common Council

Robert Miller, Mayor
(262) 342-1161

First District Aldermen
Bob Prailes, 763-5194
Ed Johnson, 763-8321

Second District Aldermen
Peter Hintz, 763-7063
Jim Prailes, 763-7322



Third District Aldermen
Tom Vos, Council President, 763-2213
Steve Rauch, 767-1910

Fourth District Alderman
Katie Simenson, 767-0409
Jeff Fischer, 763-3841